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LETTER DATED 25 NOVEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic of 25 November 1994.

Please have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Eldar G. KOULIYEV
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Azerbaijani Republic

25 November 1994

Agence France-Presse (AFP) has circulated a communiqué indicating that members of the Armenian population are being resettled in the town of Lachin in the Azerbaijani Republic, which is occupied by Armenian armed forces. Over the past two months, 50 families have already been transferred there from Erevan.

In this connection the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic considers it necessary to make the following statement:

The information from AFP is evidence of the continuation, by official quarters in Erevan, of the policy of annexing occupied Azerbaijani lands.

In violation of all standards of international law, the Armenian authorities have been carrying out "ethnic cleansing" in the occupied territory of the Azerbaijani Republic and have been resettling their own citizens there.

All this is occurring at a time when the world community, acting through international organizations and certain countries, is making efforts to reach a political settlement of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict.

The direct involvement of official circles in Erevan in these irresponsible actions is indicated by the opinion expressed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, V. Papazian, which was also carried by AFP, to the effect that Lachin must be handed over to the Armenians.

Such statements and actions by the Armenian side are designed to sabotage a peaceful political settlement of the conflict and to promote the de facto annexation of Azerbaijani lands. The Armenians resettled in Lachin and other Azerbaijani villages are thereby becoming the virtual hostages of this irresponsible and provocative policy.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic declares that full responsibility for the consequences of the said actions is borne by official circles in the Republic of Armenia. The Azerbaijani Republic expresses its conviction that world public opinion will correctly assess the real attitude of the Republic of Armenia, which is directed not towards ending aggression and attaining peace but towards annexing occupied Azerbaijani territories and consolidating the results of "ethnic cleansing" therein.